Remarks

Claims 16-25 are pending in this application. Claims 18-19 and 22-25 were objected to because of informalities. First, an informality appears to exist because claims 18-19 should depend from claim 16 and claims 22-25 seem to depend from claims 17. Claims 18-21 were also objected to because the preamble should read 'the flash memory' rather than the memory. Claims 22-25 were objected to because the preamble should read 'the memory system' rather than 'the system.' Claims 16, 18 and 19 have been canceled by this amendment, and appropriate corrections have been made to claims 21-25 to overcome these objections. Withdrawal of these objections is requested.

There was a double-patenting rejection over claims 16 and 18-21. These claims have been canceled by this amendment, in regards to claims 16 and 18-19. Claims 20 and 21 have been amended to depend from claim 17, to correct the typographical error. The subject matters of claims 20 and 21 find antecedent basis in claim 17 and should properly read to depend from claim 17.

Claim 17 has been allowed, therefore claims 20 and 21 should be ruled allowable for that reason and for their own merits.

Claims 22-25 have been rewritten to overcome the objections set forth above. Therefore, claims 17 and 20-25 are in allowable form.

No new matter has been added by this amendment. Allowance of all claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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